SUDOKU ALPHA

QUICK **A5303**

7	4				5			
	3	6						
9		5				1	2	6
6		7	3		2	9	8	
		8		9				
3						6		
5			2		3		9	
						2		
2					1	3	4	

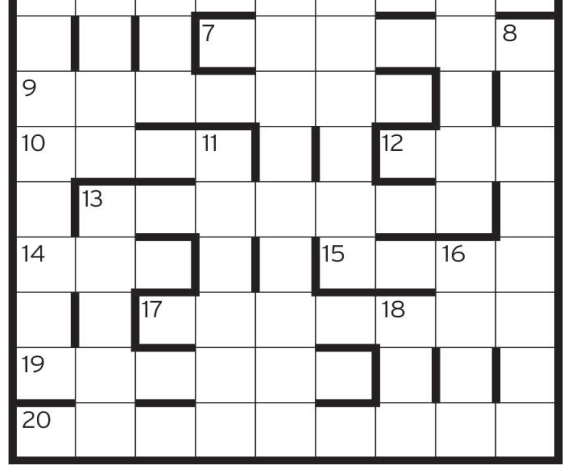
TRICKY **B5303**

		7		3		1		
			7			9		
		4		2		3		
1		8	2			4		
			6					
2		6		5				
					7			9
8	9		1				3	
		3	4					5

To solve this puzzle each 3x3 box, each row and each column must contain all the numbers 1 to 9. While the rules may be simple, there are numerous strategies to help you solve sudoku. For hints and information visit www.sudoku.org.uk.

Created by Peter Ritmeester (C) PZZL.com

CROSSWORD



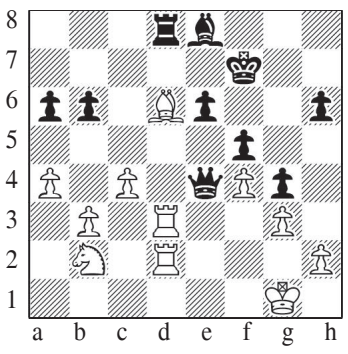
ACROSS

1 Train departure points (9)
7 Outdoor meal (6)
9 Military officer (7)
10 Single complete entity (4)
12 Chicken (3)
13 Astonished (7)
14 Sort, type (3)
15 Facet (4)
17 School outfit (7)
19 Show (6)
20 Glen lisps (anag.) (9)

DOWN

1 Strange (8)
2 Big cat (4)
3 Feel unwell (3)
4 Relating to money (9)
5 Large seas (6)
6 Assorted (5)
8 Denounces (8)
11 Underground passage (6)
13 Slumber (5)
16 Narcotic (4)
18 Possess (3)

CHESS



BLACK CLEANS UP

HINT: GO AFTER THE KING.

Solution: 1. ... Qe1ch! 2. Kg2 Bc6ch! 3. Rd5 Qxd2ch, etc. (the rook at d5 is pinned)[Breukmeulen-Landa, '14].

TARGET

HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters shown here?
In making a word, each letter may be used once only. Each must contain the centre letter and there must be at least one nine-letter word.
No plurals or verb forms ending in "s".

TODAY'S TARGET

Good 15;

Very good 22;

Excellent 29 (or more).

Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

LIBERALLY

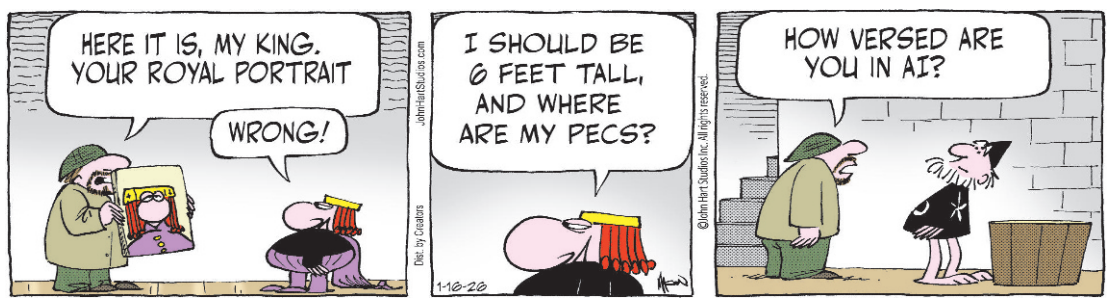
ably, airy, alley, ally, aryl, bailey, bally, barely, barley, belay, belly, beryl, billy, blearily, bleary, bray, byre, early, layer, LIBERALLY, lily, lyre, rally, really, relay, reliably, rely, riyal, year, yell, yerba

THE METRO FUNNIES

BIG NATE | BY LINCOLN PEIRCE

YOU CONTINUE TO ELUDE ME, MR. SNOWY OWL. BUT I KNOW YOU'RE OUT THERE.
I WILL PRACTICE PATIENCE, IN THE CERTAINTY THAT EVENTUALLY YOU WILL REVEAL YOURSELF TO ME IN ALL YOUR MAGNIFICENT GLORY.
THOSE ARE THE TRANSCENDENT MOMENTS OF BEAUTY A BIRDER LIVES FOR!
RIGHT, KID?
THERE'S A SEAGULL OVER THERE EATING TRASH OUT OF A GARBAGE CAN.
Visit bignate.com

THE WIZARD OF ID | BY BRANT PARKER AND JOHNNY HART


HERE IT IS, MY KING. YOUR ROYAL PORTRAIT
WRONG!
I SHOULD BE 6 FEET TALL, AND WHERE ARE MY PECS?
HOW VERSED ARE YOU IN AI?
Dist. by Creators

BABY BLUES

DAD, CAN I GET A NEW BIKE?
YOU DON'T NEED A NEW BIKE.
BUT KEESHA IS GETTING A NEW BIKE!
IF KEESHA GOT A PET CROCODILE, WOULD YOU WANT ONE, TOO?
IF KEESHA GOT A PET CROCODILE, I'D ASK IF I COULD HAVE HER NEW BIKE.

WEATHER

Sunset & Sunrise

	Hyderabad	Islamabad	Karachi	Lahore	Peshawar	Quetta
Sunset	05:59pm	05:26pm	06:05pm	05:24pm	05:30pm	06:00pm
Sunrise	07:13am	07:09am	07:17am	07:00am	07:16am	07:24am

Three Day Forecast

	Today				Tomorrow			Day After		
	Min	Max	Outlook	Humidity%	Min	Max	Outlook	Min	Max	Outlook
Faisalabad	6	18	Cloudy	83	7	19	Mostly Sunny	7	20	Partly Cloudy
Hyderabad	13	28	Partly Cloudy	56	11	27	Partly Cloudy	11	26	Sunny
Islamabad	7	18	Cloudy	49	8	20	Mostly Cloudy	9	21	Partly Cloudy
Lahore	6	17	Cloudy	81	7	18	Partly Cloudy	7	19	Partly Cloudy
Multan	7	20	Cloudy	72	8	20	Sunny	8	20	Partly Cloudy
Peshawar	6	19	Partly Cloudy	57	7	20	Mostly Sunny	7	21	Partly Cloudy
Quetta	2	16	Partly Cloudy	39	-1	13	Mostly Sunny	-1	11	Partly Cloudy

Temperature estimates are internationally sourced and may differ from local estimates.

HELP

EMERGENCIES

Police Help	15, 99212652-53, 99212634
CPLC	1102, 35662222
Fire Brigade	16, 99215007, 99215008.
Bomb Disposal	99212674
KE Complaints	118
Telephone complaints	1218
Railway Inquiry	99213565-66
PCAA Flight Inquiry	99071284, 99071259
	99071265, 114

HOSPITALS

Abbasi Shaheed	99260400-09
Civil Hospital	99215740, 9215960
Jinnah Hospital	99201300-99201301
NICVD	99201271-6
Aga Khan Hospital	34930051
Medicare Hospital	021-111-001-786
Kharadar Gen Hospital	32510113-16
Indus Hospital	35112709
Tabba	36811841, 111844844
Ziauddin Hospital	35862937-9, 36648237-9
Kiran Cancer Hospital	99261601-04
Liaquat National	111-456-456, 34939615
Memon Medical	34691147 — 54
A.O. Clinic	36685564, 3668550-64
Baqai Hospital	36618396, 36618398
Holy Family Hospital	32258994, 32258991
Patel Hospital	111174174
South City Hospital	35374072
Kidney Centre Institute	35661000-10
Karwan-e-Hayat	021-111534111
Usman Memorial	021-36310311-15

AMBULANCE

Edhi	115, 32310066, 32310077
Chhipa	1020
SIEHS/Rescue	1122
St.John	32250500, 32250600
Red Crescent	35306227, 35306228

BLOOD BANK

Fatmid	32225284, 32258656
Husaini	32238405-08
PWA (Civil)	99215740, 99215959

WORD GAME

By Kathleen Saxe

▼ TODAY'S WORD
ANALOGUE

(ANALOGUE: AN-ih-log: Something similar or comparable to something else.)

Average mark 21 words
Time limit 40 minutes

Can you find 34 or more words in ANALOGUE?

The list will be published tomorrow.

SOLUTIONS

▼ YESTERDAY'S WORD – EUPHORIA

euro	heap	ripe
urea	hear	rope
pair	heir	roue
pare	hero	roup
pareo	hire	aero
pear	hoar	aper
pier	hoer	
pore	hope	
pour	hora	
pure	hour	
hair	opera	
hare	reap	
harp	repo	

RULES OF THE GAME:

1. **Words must be of four or more letters.**
2. **Words that acquire four letters by the addition of "s," such as "bats" or "dies," are not allowed.**
3. **Additional words made by adding a "d" or an "s" may not be used. For example, if "bake" is used, "baked" or "bakes" are not allowed, but "bake" and "baking" are admissible.**
4. **Proper nouns, slang words, or vulgar or sexually explicit words are not allowed.**

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS

ACROSS

1 Diagrams
8 Recall
9 Stem
10 Ira
11 Merges
13 Incorrect
15 Before
17 See
18 Lair
19 Expect
20 Stressed.

DOWN

1 Dismisses
2 Intent
3 Aver
4 Reference
5 Aces
6 Maine
7 Flattered
12 Scribe
14 Crept
15 Beer
16 Oaks.

METRO EVENTS

LECTURE

FEATURING
DR. JOSEPH E. B. LUMBARD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF QUR'ANIC STUDIES
HAMAD BIN KHALIFA UNIVERSITY, QATAR
What if the crisis in higher education is not just financial, but intellectual?

'Beyond Specialisation: An Islamic Vision of Education', a lecture featuring Dr Joseph E.B. Lumbard, is organised at H.M. Habib Auditorium, Habib University, at 5:30pm.

BOOK LAUNCH

Musbat Soch and *Samajh,* two books by Zaid Peerzada, are launched at Haseena Moin Hall, Arts Council of Pakistan, at 4:30pm.

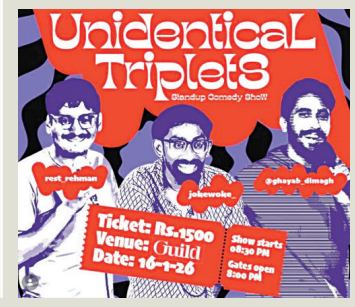
GARDEN PARTY

'New Year's Garden Party', a festival featuring arts & craft, food and music, is held at Mohatta Palace, from 5pm to 8pm.

COMEDY

'Friday Night Stand-Up Comedy' at Habitt City, Tipu Sultan Road, at 10pm.

'Unidentical Triplets', a stand-up comedy show is staged at the Guild, Sharea Faisal, at 8pm.



HOROSCOPE

By Georgia Nicols

ARIES | March 21-April 19

*** Today you can go one of two ways. Because you are noticed by others, especially authority figures (in fact, some people know personal details about your private life), you might impress people. You might shine in their eyes. Alternatively, you might be at odds with a boss. (Oops.) Tonight: You're high-viz.

TAURUS | April 20-May 20

**** Travel and a chance to do anything different will please you today. You need a change of scenery. You want stimulation, adventure and a chance to learn something new! Step outside your comfort zone. Meet people who are different. In fact, romance with someone unusual might begin. Tonight: Explore!

GEMINI | May 21-June 20

*** There are five planets in one of your Money Houses today. (That's a handful.) You can't ignore taking care of loose details about inheritances, shared property, taxes, debt and bills. Don't procrastinate. Roll up your sleeves and dig in! Tonight: Check your finances.

CANCER | June 21-July 22

*** Today you have to go more than halfway to get along with others. This requires courtesy and cooperation, accommodation and compromise. You can do this, especially because your efforts will be well received and perhaps even admired. Tonight: Listen.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 22

*** "It's all about that base." Actually, today is all about work! Whether it's your job or a task that you set for yourself, you're prepared to be hands-on. You have energy and perseverance to follow through on whatever you do. Encouragement from someone else is likely, especially a co-worker. Tonight: Get organized.

VIRGO | Aug. 23-Sept. 22

**** This is a fun-loving, romantic day. Accept opportunities and invitations to party and schmooze with others. Enjoy sports events and fun times with kids. Anything to do with the entertainment world, show business and the hospitality industry will delight you! Tonight: Socialize!

LIBRA | Sept. 23-Oct. 22

*** Home, family and your private life are your focus today. You might be more involved than usual with a parent. You might make home repairs. Family discussions might take place. You want to beautify your home and entertain friends and family. Tonight: Rest.

SCORPIO | Oct. 23-Nov. 21

**** You have a strong need to be heard today, which is why someone who will listen to you with genuine interest will be a blessing. Share your ideas. In fact, act on them. Learn anything you can. Travel will please you because you appreciate your surroundings today. Tonight: A discussion with someone.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 22-Dec. 21

*** "Show me the money!" Trust your moneymaking ideas today. You're in the groove. You're ready to work to boost your income, plus you can attract money to you today. You also might buy beautiful things for yourself and loved ones. It's all good. Ka-ching! Tonight: Check your belongings.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 19

**** Today the Sun, the Moon, Mercury, Venus and Mars are all in your sign. Yes, the world salutes CAPRICORN! You're in charge. You hold all the cards. You're calling the shots. Enjoy schmoozing with others, plus shopping for attractive wardrobe items for yourself. Tonight: You win!

AQUARIUS | Jan. 20-Feb. 18

*** Today you are best served by enjoying privacy. Find a little place to hide with good food, good drink and some entertainment. Keep a low profile. You'll be happier that way. Secrets might come out. You might even start a private love affair. Tonight: Enjoy privacy.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20

**** Today five planets are in your House of Friendships, encouraging you to enjoy the company of a friend (or friends), as well as be active in clubs and organizations. A friend might become a lover. You can also benefit by sharing your hopes and dreams for the future with someone to get their feedback. Tonight: Be friendly with others.

The stars show the kind of day you'll have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-so-so; 1-Difficult

CONTRACT BRIDGE

Bidding Quiz

By Steve Becker

Test your play

You are declarer with the West hand at Six Spades, and North leads the jack of clubs, which you ruff. How would you play the hand?

West	East
♠ A Q J 10 8	♠ K 5 3
♥ A K 9 8 5	♥ 6 4 2
♦ A Q J	♦ K 9 7
♣ --	♣ Q 6 4 3

* * *

First, you should conclude that the slam cannot be made if the trumps are divided 4-1. This is because if either defender had four trumps and you drew them, you'd have no more trumps and would automatically go down two. You therefore start by assuming a 3-2 trump division.

You next consider how the missing five hearts might be divided. Again, you make an assumption before proceeding. Oddly enough, this time you assume that the hearts are not divided 3-2 because, if they are, you are sure to succeed.

It's not that you don't want the hearts to be divided 3-2 -- you'd be delighted if they were -- but that you would like to arrange your play so as to guard against a 4-1 division, if possible (you have no chance against a 5-0 break).

Once you assume the 4-1 heart division, you have to decide how to handle the case where North has four hearts, and then the case where South has them. One approach to dealing with the problem is to imagine that North has a hand such as ♠62 ♥QJ73 ♦842 ♣J1085 and proceed from there.

At trick two, you cash the ace of hearts, on which South plays the ten. Next you cross to dummy with a diamond and lead another heart. If South ruffs, you later play two rounds of trump, cash the king of hearts, ruff a heart in dummy and so make the slam. If South does not ruff, you win the heart with the king, concede a heart to North and later ruff a heart high in dummy to produce 12 tricks.

If North has the singleton ten, jack or queen of hearts, the play is even simpler. After cashing the heart ace and seeing the ten, jack or queen appear on your left, you draw three rounds of trump ending in dummy and then lead a heart. If South follows low, you finesse the nine; if South produces one of the two missing honors, you win with the king and return the nine to establish your two remaining hearts.

Finally, if both defenders follow low on the ace of hearts at trick two, your best chance is to cross to dummy with a diamond and return a heart toward your K-9-8-5, playing the king if South follows suit.

Tomorrow: The right road to follow.

YESTERDAY'S SUDOKU SOLUTIONS

Quick — A5302

9	6	5	8	7	4	3	1	2
3	2	8	1	6	9	5	4	7
7	4	1	2	5	3	9	8	6
5	1	3	6	9	7	4	2	8
4	9	7	5	8	2	1	6	3
6	8	2	3	4	1	7	9	5
1	3	6	9	2	5	8	7	4
8	7	9	4	3	6	2	5	1
2	5	4	7	1	8	6	3	9

Tricky — B5302

7	6	4	8	3	1	2	5	9
5	1	3	2	9	7	8	4	6
9	8	2	4	6	5	1	3	7
4	7	9	5	8	6	3	1	2
1	2	6	3	7	4	5	9	8
8	3	5	1	2	9	6	7	4
6	4	8	9	1	3	7	2	5
2	9	1	7	5	8	4	6	3
3	5	7	6	4	2	9	8	1